

REMARKS

These Remarks are in response to the Office action mailed Dec. 06, 2005. Claims 1-8 and 10-11 remain pending in the present application.

In the Office action, claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Land et al. (U.S. Patent #6,807,533, hereinafter "Land"), in view of Wong (U.S. Patent #6,115,690, hereinafter "Wong"), and further in view of Lee (U.S. Patent Application Publication #20030074289, hereinafter "Lee") and Whitehead (U.S. Patent Application Publication #20020199182, hereinafter "Whitehead"). Claims 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Land in view of Benshemesh (U.S. Patent Application Publication #20030033216, hereinafter "Benshemesh"), and further in view of Lee and Whitehead. Claims 8 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong in view of Lee and Whitehead.

Applicant appreciates Examiner's careful review of the application and respectfully traverses as follows.

Claims 1-5

Claim 1 recites in part:

a sales discount managing module for managing accounting operations related to sales discounts, wherein the sales discounts comprise different discount types and discount rates, and the sales discount managing module can automatically calculate a discount of each purchase order according to corresponding one or more discount types and/or discount rates.

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Applicant submits that Land, Wong, Lee, and Whitehead taken in combination do not teach, or otherwise suggest the above-highlighted limitation as set forth in claim 1.

Lee does disclose an automatic discount module for selecting accounts receivable to be abated and abating accounts receivable based on a cash discount (para. 37). Lee further discloses a step of calculating the amount of the profit and loss of the remittance accepted and cash discount based on the selected accounts receivable (para. 37). Additionally, Whitehead does disclose a billing module which provides an ability to provide integrated accounts receivable for performing adjustment processing (para. 55). However, neither Lee nor Whitehead discloses or suggests any sort of control module dedicated to the *management of accounting operations related to sales discounts*. Accordingly, applicant asserts that Land, Wong, Lee, and Whitehead taken in combination do not teach or otherwise suggest the invention as set forth in claim 1.

Moreover, the very fact that as many as four references are cited to support the combination rejection is, in addition to the above assertions, further probative of unobviousness.

For at least the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is unobvious and patentable over Land in view of Wong, and further in view of Lee and Whitehead. Applicant requests reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of the claim.

Claims 2-5 depend directly from claim 1, and incorporate more features therein respectively. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 2-5 are also unobvious and patentable over the cited references for at least the foregoing reasons, and are thus in a condition for allowance.

Claims 6 and 7

Claim 6 recites in part:

calculating a sales discount according to one or more discount terms recorded in the purchase order, wherein the sales discount comprises any one or more of different discount types and/or discount rates.

Applicant submits that Land, Benshemesh, Lee, and Whitehead taken in combination do not teach or otherwise suggest the above-highlighted limitation as set forth in claim 6.

Lee does disclose an automatic discount module for selecting accounts receivable to be abated and abating accounts receivable based on a cash discount (para. 37). Lee further discloses a step of calculating the amount of the profit and loss of the remittance accepted and cash discount based on the selected accounts receivable (para. 37). Additionally, Whitehead does disclose a billing module which provides an ability to provide integrated accounts receivable for performing adjustment processing (para. 55). However, neither Lee nor Whitehead discloses or suggests any sort of a step dedicated to the *calculating of a sales discount according to one or more discount terms recorded in the purchase order*. Accordingly, applicant asserts that Land, Benshemesh, Lee, and Whitehead taken in combination do not teach or otherwise suggest the invention as set forth in claim 6.

Moreover, the very fact that as many as four references are cited to support the combination rejection is, in addition to the above assertions, further probative of unobviousness.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is unobvious and patentable over Land in view of Benshemesh, and further in view of Lee and Whitehead. Applicant requests reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of the claim.

Claim 7 depends from claim 6, and incorporates another feature therein. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 7 is also unobvious and patentable over the cited references for at least the foregoing reasons, and is thus in a condition for allowance.

Claims 8 and 10-11

Claim 8 recites in part:

calculating a sales discount according to one or more discount terms recorded in the purchase order, wherein the sales discount comprises any one or more of different discount types and/or discount rates.

For at least reasons similar to those asserted above in relation to claim 6, applicant asserts that Wong, Lee, and Whitehead taken in combination do not teach or otherwise suggest the invention as set forth in claim 8.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is unobvious and patentable over Wong in view of Lee and Whitehead. Applicant requests reconsideration and removal of the rejection and allowance of the claim.

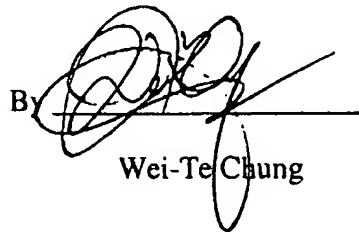
Claims 10-11 depend directly from claim 8, and incorporate more features therein respectively. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 10-11 are also unobvious and patentable over the cited references for at least the foregoing reasons, and are thus in a condition for allowance.

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In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance, and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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